

CT-681

SOLLERS SCHOOL

(c. 1900)

Sollers

Private

The Sollers School appears to be one of the best-preserved one-room school buildings in Calvert County. Evidence of its use as a public school has not been found; it may have been used for religious classes of a nearby church. One bay wide and two bays deep, the wood-framed building is clad in clapboards, and most openings are boarded over.

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Sollers School (CT-681)

a) Historical Period Theme: Social/Education/Cultural

b) Geographic Organization: Western Shore

c) Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

d) Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): school

Known Design Source: none

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CT-681

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name**

historic Sollers School

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Sollers Wharf Road at Mill Bridge Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Sollers ☐ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Calvert

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

**4. Owner of Property**

name Patti Susan Breeden

street & number 1715 Sollers Wharf Road telephone no.: 410-326-4081

city, town Lusby state and zip code MD 20657-3015

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office liber ABE 434

street & number 175 Main Street folio 874

city, town Prince Frederick state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title Calvert County Historic Sites Survey

date 1980 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-681

### Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

This school building is located on a tree-shaded lot in a rural section of Calvert County. The lot, located at the corner of Sollers Wharf and Mill Bridge roads, is presently used to store truck trailers. It is owned by Patti Susan Breeden, who owns a large ranch house located directly across Sollers Wharf Road from the site of the school.

The school is a simple, gable-fronted, wood-framed building with a steeply pitched roof. Doors are centered in both the north and south gable ends. The side walls are pierced with two window openings. All of these window and door openings are boarded over. The north gable end has a one over one, double hung sash window in its gable peak, while the south gable end has a six over six, double hung sash window.

The building is raised slightly above ground level with stone corner piers. The walls are sheathed in clapboards and have plain corner boards. The cornice is boxed, and the roof is sheathed in corrugated metal sheets.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-681

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1900

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
 Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

It is not entirely clear if this building was actually used as a public school in Calvert County. References in past deeds to a "Sunday School lot" suggest that the building may have at one time accommodated religious education programs of the nearby St. Johns Church. The external appearance of the building suggests a construction date of approximately 1900. If the building was used as a school for white children, it probably closed in the 1920s when southern Calvert County schools were consolidated at Solomons.

Because of a convoluted parcel history, a complete chain of title for the property was not established. In 1937, Margaret McNaughton Rorty, executrix of the estate of Malcolm Churchill, transferred ownership of several adjacent parcels to herself (Calvert County Deed Book AAH37:519, September 3, 1937). Nine years later, Rorty sold six parcels, including the site of the school, to Horace H. and Betty Fuller for \$10 and other valuable considerations (Calvert County Deed Book AWR 6:413, May 1, 1946).

In 1972, Betty Fuller sold the same six parcels to Dolores and Frank Marino and Jack B. Steele, Jr. and Sr., for \$5 and other good and valuable considerations (Calvert County Deed Book 148:2, September 29, 1972). In the most recent recorded transaction, the Marinos transferred their half ownership share to the Steeles in exchange for \$3,500 (Calvert County Deed Book ABE 434:874, April 6, 1988).

Although interior inspection of the building was not possible, it appears little changed from the date of its construction. This building may be among the best preserved one-room schools in Calvert County, significant both for its historic role in the Sollers community and as a typical, but now rare, example of a turn-of-the-century, one-room school.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-681

Calvert County Deeds. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office. Prince Frederick, MD.  
Stinson, Merry. Jack B. Steele School. Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form #CT-681. March 1980.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 8.45 acres [entire parcel]

Quadrangle name Cove Point, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

That portion of Parcel 142-11 on which the former schoolhouse stands. This represents the portion of the property historically associated with the schoolhouse.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Douglas C. McVarish, Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date May 1998

street & number 1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor

telephone 215-561-7637

city or town Philadelphia

state PA

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032  
(301-514-7600)

CT-681  
SCHOOL; JACK B. STEELE  
(c. 1900)  
Sollers  
Private

This frame building is a one story, one bay by two bay school house which is covered with plain lapped siding. The entrance and a small window above it are the only openings in the west gable elevation. There are two windows in the south elevation. All of the windows have been boarded shut.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

School: Jack B. Steele

AND/OR COMMON

Jack B. Steele School

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Mill Bridge Road ( on Sollers Wharf Road)

CITY, TOWN

Sollers

X VICINITY OF Lusby

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Jack B. Steele

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20657

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #: JLB 148

Folio #: 2

STREET &amp; NUMBER

(MD Route 765) Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

MD

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE



PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

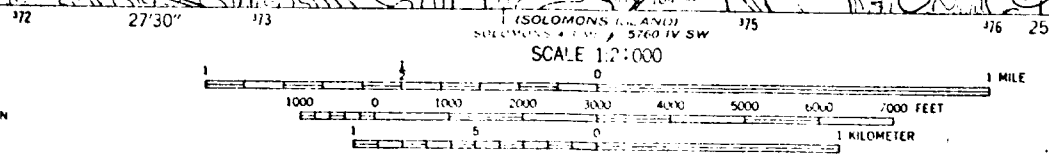
SPECIFIC DATES c. 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

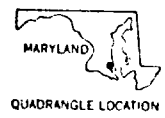
## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This turn-of-the-century frame school is typical of those built in Calvert County.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



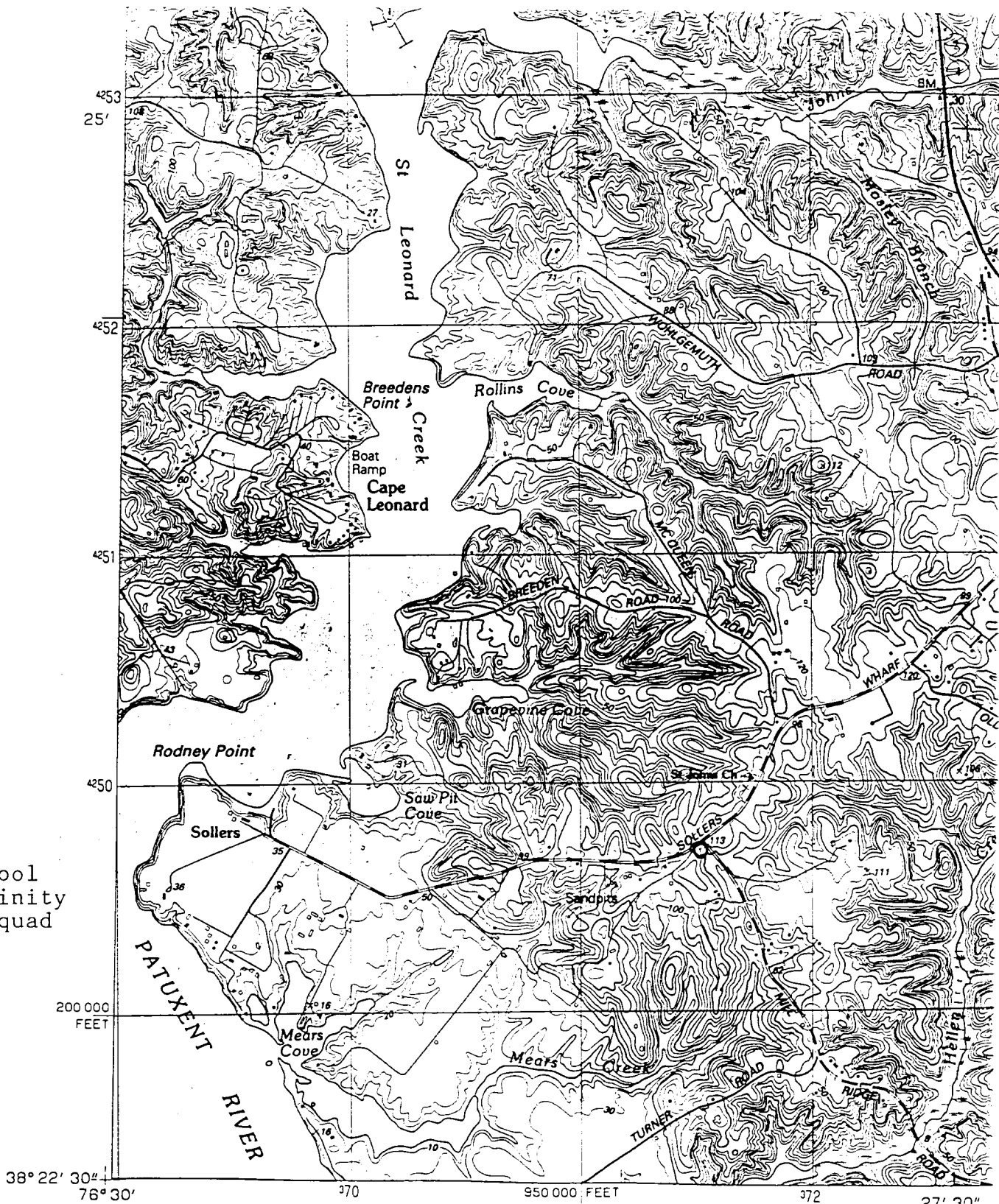
MN  
 GN  
 8° 14' 2" N  
 0° 54' 16" E  
 142 MILES  
 16 MILES  
 UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Cove Point CT-681  
 Quadrangle School; Jack B. Steele

Sollers School  
Sollers vicinity  
Cove Point quad  
CT-681



(HOLLYWOOD)  
5680 1 SE

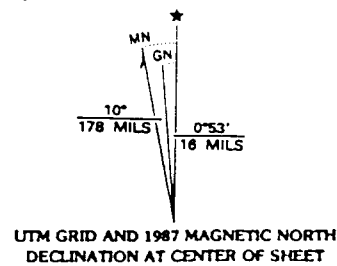
Produced by the United States Geological Survey

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and DMA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1981. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1987  
Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1943

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Maryland coordinate  
system (Lambert conformal conic)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,  
move the projection lines 9 meters south and  
28 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map

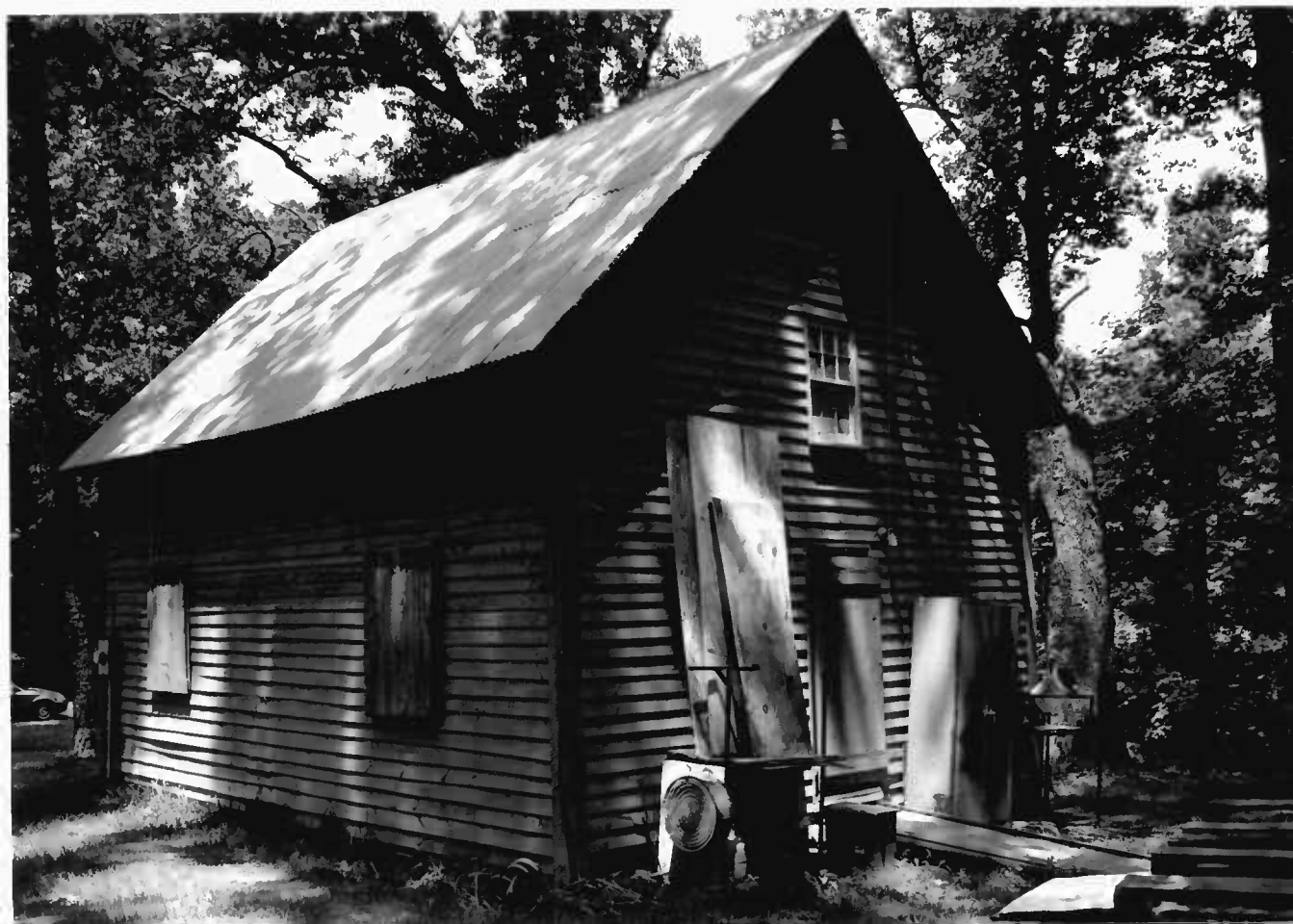


100

FOR







17

1800 - 1800 - 1800 -

18

19





27

CT-681

School; Jack B. Steele  
mill Bridge Road, Sollers  
calvert County, MD  
W & S

Merry Stinson  
March, 1980